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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/660,312	09/12/2000	David J. Goerz JR.	PA1631	6935

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EXAMINER

VIG, NARESH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3629	

DATE MAILED: 01/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/660,312

Applicant(s)

GOERZ ET AL.

Examiner

Naresh Vig

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This is in reference to application filed on 12 September 2003. Preliminary amendment filed in 22 January 2002 with addition of new claims 19 – 50 have been acknowledged and considered. There are 50 claims, claims 1 – 50 pending for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 19 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Chipman US Patent 6,038,668.

Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Regarding claims 1, 19 Chipman discloses a project development Website comprising at least one Web page, wherein a user can select between categories to concurrently search for multiple aspects of a project thereby locating project directed resources related to said multiple aspects [Fig. 2, 3, col. 1, lines 15 - 21 col. 2, line 46 – col. 3, line 13].

Regarding claim 28, Chipman discloses:
identifying a project [col. 13, lines 29 – 38];
accessing an Internet Website including a project management life cycle process organized according to at least one project phase for developing said project [col. 13, lines 29 – 38]; and
identifying a set of aspects associated with each said project phase [col. 13, lines 29 – 38].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 – 5, 8 – 13, 19 – 20, 23 – 24, 29 – 46 and 48 – 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chipman et al. US Patent 6,038,668 hereinafter known as Chipman in view of Bentley et al. US Patent 5,815,415 hereinafter known as Bentley.

Regarding claims 2 – 3, 12 and 13, Chipman discloses knowledge base [Fig. 3], HTML, categories are Life Cycle, Operating Region, Operating Country, Industry Sector, and Supporting Services [col. 14, lines 5 – 14]. Indexed multi-dimensional knowledge base [col. 7, lines 19 – 21]. Chipman discloses to have database [abstract], categories [col. 3, line 55], plurality of nodes [Fig. 6]. Chipman does not disclose use of URL. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Regarding claim 4, Chipman does not explicitly disclose the category being Life Cycle. However, Bentley discloses that the consideration of Life Cycle is essential for

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large projects to refine and revise the schemas that are used by projects without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data [col. 2, lines 3 – 25]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to refine and revise the schemas that are used by the project without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data.

Regarding claims 5, 13, 20, 23 and 24 Chipman does not disclose URL to have its own attributes. However, Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site (attributes) [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Regarding claims 8, Chipman discloses a project development Website comprising at least one Web page, wherein a user can select between categories to concurrently search for multiple aspects of a project thereby locating project directed resources related to said multiple aspects [Fig. 2, 3, col. 1, lines 15 - 21 col. 2, line 46 – col. 3, line 13]. Chipman does not disclose pre-selected URL. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35], and capability to select "likely hit" which is then made available

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from the locate agent [col. 9, lines 58 – 60]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development, automate selection for user without user entering the URL. (In re Venner, 262 F.2d 91, 120 USPQ 192 (CCPA 1958).

Regarding claim 9, Chipman discloses a project development Website comprising at least one Web page for navigating through pre-defined categories [col. 14, lines 5 – 14] to locate project directed resources identified in a multi-dimensional knowledge base [Fig. 3].

Chipman discloses indexed multi-dimensional knowledge base [col. 7, lines 19 – 21]. Chipman discloses to have database [abstract], categories [col. 3, line 55], plurality of entry points [Fig. 6].

Chipman discloses categorize information in pre-defined categories having sub-categories for navigating through said multi-dimensional knowledge base to locate said project directed resources [col. 14, lines 5 – 14].

Chipman does not disclose use of URL. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Regarding claim 11, Chipman discloses system and method to develop a business project on a project development Website. Chipman discloses initiating a navigated search of an indexed knowledge base [abstract], user selecting from group consisting of categories stored on knowledge base [col. 14, lines 5 – 14]

Chipman discloses searching indexed knowledge base for Internet resources corresponding to said navigated search of said selected super category (catalog search) [abstract]

Chipman does not disclose use of URL. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Regarding claim 29, Chipman does not disclose use of URL. However, Chipman discloses creating web pages [col. 13, lines 34 – 35]. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Regarding claim 30 , Chipman discloses to track phases of project progress [col. 12, line 48 – col. 13, 27]. Chipman does not explicitly disclose Life Cycle. However, Bentley discloses that the consideration of Life Cycle is essential for large projects to refine and revise the schemas that are used by projects without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data [col. 2, lines 3 – 25]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to refine and revise the schemas that are used by the project without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data.

Regarding claim 31, Chipman discloses selectively applying (updating) information to the project (only said Concept phase and said Commercial Operation phase to said project) [col. 13, lines 29 – 38].

Regarding claim 32, Chipman discloses to have search capability (selectably searching said set of aspects by category or keyword) [Fig. 5, knowledgebase].

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Regarding claim 33, Chipman discloses private and public websites (URL / web addresses are pre-selected according to a predetermined criterion) [Fig. 5].

Regarding claims 34, 44, Chipman discloses private and public websites (selecting URLs / web addresses from said set of aspects for each said project phase) [Fig. 5].

Regarding claim 35, Chipman discloses private and public websites (URLs / web addresses represent project related services).

Regarding claim 36, Chipman does not explicitly disclose Life Cycle. However, Bentley discloses that the consideration of Life Cycle is essential for large projects to refine and revise the schemas that are used by projects without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data [col. 2, lines 3 – 25]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to refine and revise the schemas that are used by the project without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data.

Chipman in view of Bentley does not disclose auction/RFP. Official notice it taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

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invention was made that Request For Proposal (RFPs, business solicits potential bidders to bid for the project which is reviewed by the review team, one or more responses are selected and a recommendation to the approving authority). During the RFP process, a business receives request for a project, generate RFP for the bidders, may elect to use open bid, or, send RFP to select bidders for response, bidders receive RFP from the issuing business, bidders send their response to the RFP, business receives bids from bidders (individually selected), select winning bids and recommend the winning bid (best bid) to the management. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman in view of Bentley to implement auction/RFP to get the best proposal for the project.

Regarding claim 37, Chipman discloses public and private websites, sector portal (identifying a contract for said facet of said project to the URL submitting the best bid) [Fig. 5].

Regarding claims 38, 46, Chipman discloses storing in a searchable data vault all operations performed during each said project phase over the life of said project [Fig. 5].

Regarding claims 39, 43, Chipman discloses:

an Internet Website for developing said project, said Internet Website including a multi-dimensional knowledge base [Fig. 5];

a project management life cycle system organized according to at least one project phase predetermined criterion [Fig. 5, use of database]; and

a secure deal space for transacting deals during any said project phase (business capability, ordering capability, project update capability) [col. 12, line 36 – col. 13, line 42].

Chipman does not disclose use of URL. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Regarding claims 40, 45, Chipman in view of Bentley does not disclose auction/RFP. Official notice it taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Request For Proposal (RFPs, business solicits potential bidders to bid for the project which is reviewed by the review team, one or more responses are selected and a recommendation to the approving authority). During the RFP process, a business receives request for a project,

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generate RFP for the bidders, may elect to use open bid, or, send RFP to select bidders for response, bidders receive RFP from the issuing business, bidders send their response to the RFP, business receives bids from bidders (individually selected), select winning bids and recommend the winning bid (best bid) to the management. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman in view of Bentley and implement auction/RFP to get the best proposal for the project.

Regarding claims 41, 50, Chipman discloses coordination of communication and information exchange among entities in a supply chain so as to arrive at feasible manufacturing schedules (individually selected URLs are accomplished using on-line conferencing) [col. 13, lines 54 – 57].

Regarding claims 42, 49, Chipman discloses to have secured environment capability (secure deal space) [col. 10, line 45].

Regarding claim 47, Chipman discloses:

accepting a project;

identifying facets of said project [Fig. 5, project knowledgebase];

accessing an Internet Website including at least a multi-dimensional knowledge base organized according to a project management life cycle process having at least one project phase that is pre-selected according to a predetermined criterion [Fig. 5, public and private websites];

identifying said project related resources for each said facet;

Chipman does not disclose use of URLs. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Chipman in view of Bentley does not disclose auction/RFP. Official notice it taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Request For Proposal (RFPs, business solicits potential bidders to bid for the project which is reviewed by the review team, one or more responses are selected and a recommendation to the approving authority). During the RFP process, a business receives request for a project, generate RFP for the bidders, may elect to use open bid, or, send RFP to select bidders for response, bidders receive RFP from the issuing business, bidders send their response to the RFP, business receives bids from bidders (individually selected), select winning bids and recommend the winning bid (best bid) to the management. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

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modify Chipman in view of Bentley to implement auction/RFP to get the best proposal for the project.

Chipman does not explicitly disclose Life Cycle. However, Bentley discloses that the consideration of Life Cycle is essential for large projects to refine and revise the schemas that are used by projects without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data [col. 2, lines 3 – 25]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman as taught by Bentley to refine and revise the schemas that are used by the project without jeopardizing the integrity of the already existing data.

Regarding claim 48, Chipman does not disclose recommending to make a contract for project with project related resource submitting the best bid. Official notice it taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Request For Proposal (RFPs, business solicits potential bidders to bid for the project which is reviewed by the review team, one or more responses are selected and a recommendation to the approving authority). During the RFP process, a business receives request for a project, generate RFP for the bidders, may elect to use open bid, or, send RFP to select bidders for response, bidders receive RFP from the issuing business, bidders send their response to the RFP, business receives bids from bidders (individually selected), select winning bids and recommend the winning bid (best bid) to the management. A contract is made

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between the RFP requester and the selected bidder to make an agreement for the project deliverables to minimize misunderstandings during the project development. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman in view of Bentley to make a contract to document the requirements of a projects.

Claims 6 – 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chipman et al. US Patent 6,038,668 hereinafter known as Chipman in view of Bentley et al. US Patent 5,815,415 hereinafter known as Bentley and further in view of Coley et al. US Patent 5,826,014 hereinafter known as Coley.

Regarding claims 6 – 7 neither Chipman nor Bentley disclose a user key and password for entering the Website. However, Coley discloses use of firewall and passwords to secure the internal networks attached to the public network [claim 5]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman in view of Bentley as taught by Coley to secure the internal networks attached to the public network.

Claims 14 – 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chipman et al. US Patent 6,038,668 hereinafter known as Chipman in view of Bentley et al. US Patent 5,815,415 hereinafter known as Bentley and further in view of Coley et al. US Patent 5,826,014 hereinafter known as Coley and Plantz et al. US Patent 6,088,702 hereinafter known as Plantz.

Regarding claim 14, Plantz discloses URL to have its own attributes [col. 7, lines 19 – 22].

Regarding claim 15 Plantz discloses a user key for entering the Website [Fig. 6].

Regarding claim 16, Plantz discloses user password [Fig. 6].

Claims 17 – 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Plantz et al. US Patent 6,088,702 hereinafter known as Plantz in view of Kaufer et al US Patent 6,517,763 hereinafter known as Kaufer and further in view of Yahoo.Com hereinafter known as Yahoo.

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Regarding claim 17, Plantz discloses method for using an Internet appliance to develop a business project on a project development Website

Plantz discloses to have searching [col. 8, line 43].

Plantz does not disclose indexed knowledge base. Kaufer discloses to have knowledge base [col. 1, line 55]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Plantz in view of Kaufer by using knowledge base capability to provide the ability to alert system users to potential difficulties which may affect project completion prior to the occurrence of such difficulties in order for system users to be able to make necessary adjustments to minimize or prevent such projected difficulties from occurring.

Plantz in view of Kaufer does not disclose one of pre-defined categories selected from the group consisting of Life Cycle, Operating Region, Operating Country, Industry Sector, and Supporting Services. Official notice it taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that it is a business choice to define what categories to create within a group. However, Plantz discloses topic and subtopics (category, sub-category) [Fig. 1]. Yahoo discloses plurality of categories within a group which meets their business requirements. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to create group consisting of Life Cycle, Operating Region, Operating Country, Industry Sector, and Supporting Services categories to meet the requirements of the business by implementing Plantz in view of Kaufer and Yahoo to keep the information sorted in the business preferred order.

Plantz discloses entering a keyword, if a keyword search is selected, and searching said indexed knowledge base for Internet resources corresponding to said keyword [col. 8, lines 43 – 45].

Plantz in view of Kaufer does not disclose to display URLs to user. Yahoo discloses to display URLs to user [page 13]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to display URL to inform user the source of the information.

Regarding claim 18, Plantz in view of Kaufer does not disclose more than one of Internet Websites to be service provider. Yahoo discloses websites to be service provider. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have service provider provide the information to ensure that the data is not an opinion, but it can be supported by the content provider (service provider).

Plantz discloses to have secured place [Fig. 6].

Plantz in view of Kaufer and Yahoo does not disclose to request bids from service providers, and receiving bids from service providers. Official notice it taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that business are know to solicit bids for projects (Request For Proposal aka RFP, Request For Information aka RFI, Request For Quotation aka RFQ). Service providers provide response to information requested, business reviews response and

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selects a bid from received bids, thereby choosing one of said service providers, and negotiate a contract for services from said selected service provider. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to automate the RFP, RFI, RFQ process to save costs and minimize errors (In re Venner, 262 F.2d 91, 120 USPQ 192 (CCPA 1958)).

Claims 21 – 22 and 25 – 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chipman et al. US Patent 6,038,668 hereinafter known as Chipman in view of Leonard US Patent 5729746.

Regarding claim 21, Chipman does not disclose project phases. However, Leonard discloses phases consisting of Concept, Feasibility, Definitive Planning, Project Structuring, Project Release, Project Implementation, and Commercial Operation [Fig. 1]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify chipman as taught by Leonard to improve on project management of the development process.

Regarding claim 22, Chipman discloses may elect between category and keyword for searching said associated set of aspects [abstract, col. 5, lines 33 – 37].

Regarding claim 25, Chipman in view of Leonard and Bentley does not disclose auction/RFP. Official notice it taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Request For Proposal (RFPs, business solicits potential bidders to bid for the project which is reviewed by the review team, one or more responses are selected and a recommendation to the approving authority). During the RFP process, a business receives request for a project, generate RFP for the bidders, may elect to use open bid, or, send RFP to select bidders for response, bidders receive RFP from the issuing business, bidders send their response to the RFP, business receives bids from bidders (individually selected), select winning bids and recommend the winning bid (best bid) to the management. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman in view of Leonard and Bentley and implement auction/RFP to get the best proposal for the project.

Chipman in view of Leonard does not disclose use of URL. Bentley teaches use of URL for project development website to provide location information of an external site [col. 49, lines 27 – 35]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman in view of Leonard as taught by Bentley to provide location information of an external site used for the project development.

Regarding claim 26, Chipman discloses capability of ordering services with the supplier (executing a contract between said project and said URL submitting said best bid) [col. 12, lines 36 – 40].

Regarding claim 27, Chipman discloses a searchable data vault for storing all operations performed during each said project phase over a life of a project [Fig. 5].

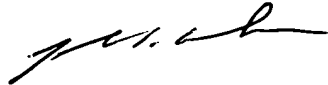
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naresh Vig whose telephone number is 703.305.3372. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 - 5:00 (Alt Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on 703.308.2702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703.305.3900.

January 4, 2004
Naresh Vig


JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600